

February 26, 2007

Present: Ms. Gae Elfenbein
Mr. John Goerlach
Mr. Richard Walsh
Mr. Paul Boudreau, Town Administrator

Warrants: Warrants Signed

The meeting was opened by Ms Elfenbein at 7:00 p.m.

7:00 - 7:15 - Public Comment

Tom Mierzejewski with further complaints about Mr. Gattuso's driveway and the building materials he is still bringing to his property and burning. Mr. Mierzejewski left pictures showing the area in question. Mr. Boudreau explained that the Selectmen do not have any jurisdiction over this matter. Ms. Elfenbein said that the matter will be forwarded to the building inspector.

COMPLAINT

Mr. Walsh amended his motion regarding snow plowing to read an effective date of February 15, 2007 instead of February 14, 2007. Motion made by Mr. Walsh to accept the February 21, 2007 minutes, as amended, seconded by Mr. Goerlach. Unanimously voted.

ACCEPTED
MINUTES

Bruce Durwin and Donna Forgea to discuss the problems with the treasurer's/collector's office. Ms. Elfenbein said that the main issues are that bank reconciliations have not been done since July and the tax receivable reconciliations are not in balance either. Mr. Durwin explained what he wants the bank reconciliations done and the treasurer to figure out what the real outstanding numbers are in the tax collectors office to compare them to the general ledger. Mr. Durwin explained that he spent 1/2 a day with Patriots and finally got some answers; but the numbers do not match what the town has for totals. Mr. Durwin feels that Ms. Forgea needs to be working on this to balance this out. The personal property commitments numbers that Patriots has also do not agree with what Mr. Durwin has. The source of Patriots information from the beginning and the numbers that they are using came from Point and Ms. Forgea feels that Point sabotaged the numbers. Ms. Forgea feels that there are other things that she must do before doing the reconciliations. She said that she feels that other parts of her job take precedence over bank reconciliations. Mr. Goerlach asked if she would be

TREASURER

able to do it on a monthly basis after the bank reconciliations have been caught up. Ms. Forgea
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said yes. Mr. Durwin said that according to the figures he has 2005 balanced; but nothing since. The Board asked if Ms. Silverman could do the payroll and warrant to ease the workload that Ms. Forgea has. Ms. Forgea and Mr. Durwin indicated that she could. Mr. Boudreau said that even if she could Ms. Silverman does not have the time.

TREASURER
CONT'D

Mark Bashara to explain to the Board the reason there are 6 police cruisers in operation at this time. Chief Bashara explained that the executive car was paid for under a Community Policing Grant. The K-9 unit was also purchased with grant money. (For a more detailed account see the attached list.) The Town would not have gotten more than \$500 for a trade in credit and he will not be putting any substantial amount of money into them for repairs. Mr. Goerlach stated that he remembered when the Chief came in and stated that he was writing and submitting application for the grants; but at the time his understanding was that the Chief would be coming back to the Selectmen for approval for the actual purchase. Mr. Goerlach stated that he feels that there are too many vehicles on the road for the size of the town. Mr. Goerlach said that he feels that the administrative car should be contractual. Chief Bashara is not asking for this to be in his contract and does not expect to reap any benefit from having this car when he retires. If the Town wants to put something in his contract stating that they can. Mr. Goerlach asked that Town Counsel be asked for an opinion as to what circumstances would a chief's vehicle be considered compensation for retirement.

POLICE
DEPARTMENT
VEHICLES

Mr. Skubel said that because the new system put in place for him to get messages does not work, he has gotten a new pager and the public should call the police department and they will be page him. The new pager number is 413-292-3033. Mr. Walsh asked about the training. Mr. Skubel said that when he checked he was told that there would not be any classes held in Agawam anymore. So it would mean traveling to Devons twice a week for about 12 weeks. Mr. Boudreau will check into why this has been done and what consideration being made for the western part of the state.

ANIMAL
CONTROL
OFFICER

Mr. Tinkham is looking for the numbers from the Treasurer for the Baker Hill Road District, so that he can finish the budget. The Board informed him that he has to get that information from the Treasurer.

BAKER HILL
ROAD

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Chief Bashara asked for executive session to discuss his contract. Motion made by Mr. Walsh to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations and to reconvene to open session, seconded by Mr. Goerlach. Mr. Walsh, yes; Mr. Goerlach, yes; Ms. Elfenbein, yes.

EXECUTIVE
SESSION

Administrators Report

Mr. Boudreau reported that Greylock Estates and Olsen Road projects were to be presented at a hearing of the Conservation Commission tonight. The cost estimates received for the structural work for Olsen Road is \$99,000 and Greylock Estates Road is \$125,000. Mr. Walsh asked if Mr. Decelles could get a price for the paving of these roads. Mr. Boudreau will ask Mr. Decelles to get that figure for the Board.

OLSEN ROAD
GREYLOCK
ESTATES ROAD

Mr. Boudreau asked the Board to approve the administrator /selectmen's report for the Annual Town Report. Ms. Elfenbein asked that the information about the Town's Sister City be included and also add that the Town shared the cost of redesign of the Mall Road.

TOWN REPORT

End of Administrator's Report.

Mail

Ms. Elfenbein said that she received the TIP program forms at her home instead of town hall. Mr. Boudreau said that he received a copy too. Mr. Boudreau asked if the culvert in Berkshire Village could be included in TIP. Ms. Elfenbein said that she thinks that Churchill Street can be added to the TIP because it is a connector road to Pittsfield. Mr. Boudreau said that all the residents on Churchill want is the drainage taken care of.

TIP

Mr. Goerlach stated that he thinks that the guardrails in Town need to be replaced. Mr. Boudreau reported that Mr. DeCelles has money left in the STRAP grant for Brodie Mtn. Road and he wants to use it for guardrails on Brodie Mtn. Road.

GUARDRAILS

<p>The Board set a hearing date for the Best Bamboo House beer and wine license for 7:30 pm on March 26, 2007. Mr. Goerlach asked if Town Counsel could give an opinion as to whether he can sit in on the meeting since he did work for the owners of the real property. Although he did not work for the owners of the restaurant.</p>	<p>BEER & WINE LICENSE</p>
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<p>Mr. Boudreau sent another letter to Mrs. Giguere about the new junk cars on her property.</p>	<p>JUNK CARS</p>
<p>Mr. Boudreau said that he heard from Attorney Brenner regarding the removal the vehicles on the property on Iroquois Street, asking for a 10 day extension to comply because of the snow.</p>	<p>JUNK CARS</p>
<p>Letter from Josels regarding a junk car that has not been removed.</p>	<p>JUNK CARS</p>
<p>Request from Berkshire Cycling Association for permission to hold their Annual Pro-Am bicycle on Saturday, May 5 in Lanesborough. The board has no problem with this. Mr. Goerlach and Mr. Walsh both asked that the association consider Lanesborough Police for traffic control.</p>	<p>BERKSHIRE CYCLING</p>
<p>Letter from Bill Prendergast regarding his interest in being appointed to the Baker Hill Road District.</p>	<p>BAKER HILL ROAD</p>
<p>Notification of hearing received from the Lanesborough Parks & Recreation Committee regarding the drive-in property. Does the town have title to this property yet?</p>	<p>DRIVE-IN</p>
<p>Old Business:</p>	
<p>Mr. Walsh said that he was informed that all Mr. Newton does is move the junk cars into the woods on his property.</p>	<p>JUNK CRS</p>
<p>Mr. Goerlach presented the Board with a copy of his letter to file regarding his contract with the state to plow state roads.</p>	<p>GOERLACH</p>
<p>Mr. Goerlach said that Mr. Decelles asked him if the Board is going to back a new vehicle for the Highway Department to replace a 10-year old truck.</p>	<p>HIGHWAY TRUCK</p>
<p>Mr. Goerlach reported that he spoke with Mr. Boudreau about cutting back with the amount of the raises. Mr. Boudreau said that 3% does not</p>	<p>RAISES</p>

even offset the increase in the health insurance deduction.

Ms. Elfenbein suggested asking Mr. Hickey to set up an open meeting to give a presentation regarding the Community Preservation Act.

COMMUNITY
PRESERVATION
ACT

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New Business

Mr. Goerlach said that Maxymillian needs to take over the road to the Greylock Reservation for insurance purposes and they want to close the road now. Mr. Goerlach suggested sending a letter to DCR asking to keep the road open. Mr. Boudreau will check this out.

GREYLOCK
RESERVATION

Mr. Boudreau will send a letter to Representative Guyer regarding the animal control officer training course being relocated to the eastern part of the state.

ANIMAL
CONTROL
TRAINING

Mr. DeSanti is withdrawing his letter requesting his appointment to the Baker Hill Road District.

BAKER HILL

Ms. Elfenbein spoke regarding the after prom. She knows that as a Board they cannot support this program with town money, but asked that the Town put an ad in the Mt. Greylock yearbook, congratulating the graduates. Mr. Boudreau will check it out.

MT.GREYLOCK
YEARBOOK

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mr. Goerlach. Unanimously voted.
Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

MEETING
ADJOURNED